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Docket No. 54805/JPW/GJG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Howard J. Worman and Naoto Mamiya
Serial No.: 09/407,430 Examiner: Q. Nguyen
Filed : September 29, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1632
For : HCV E2 PROTEIN BINDING AGENTS FOR TREATMENT OF
HEPATITIS C VIRUS INFECTION

#25/F
Lita
8/6/03

1185 Avenue Of The Americas
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July 17, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO JUNE 17, 2003 COMMUNICATION

This Amendment is in response to a June 17, 2003 Communication issued by the U.S. Patent Office alleging that applicants Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed March 21, 2003 is not fully responsive to the December 23, 2002 final Office Action on the ground that it allegedly introduced claims directed to a non-elected invention. A response to the June 17, 2003 Communication is due July 17, 2003. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 57-78 without prejudice to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in this or a subsequent application.

Please add new claims 79-100 as follows: